'Oil sick from the Persian Gulf"

425. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the possibility of oil sick from Persian Gulf reaching the West and South West coast of India;

(b) if so, what havoc it will cause to the marine ecology of the country; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) As per the assessment made by the Government, the probability of oil slick from Persian Gulf reaching the West and South West Coast of India is small. Continuous monitoring of the movement of oil slick is being done by the Department of Space using Remote Sensing Satellite. The marine ecology of the country is being monitored. No adverse effect has been detected.

426. [*Transferred to the 7th March, 1991*]

Wage revision in Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. Visakhapatnam

427. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for wage revision of workmen of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, has been finalised and necessary funds made available;

(b) if so, by when the actual payment is likely to be made to the workmen; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) The proposal for wage revision of workmen of Hindustan Shipyard Limited has been finalised in consultation with concerned Government agencies. Hindustan Shipyard Limited has accumulated losses of approximately Rs. 273.20 crores as on 31-12-1990. The Shipyard is currently not in a position to raise sufficient internal resources even to pay wages at current rates. It is, therefore, not possible to make any commitment as to the date by which the actual payment is likely to be made to the workmen in accordance with the new wage rates.

"National social forestry programme"

428. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item entitled: "Forestry project design faulty: IBRD" in daily Economic Times, New Delhi, dated 6th February, 1991, wherein it has been mentioned that the social benefits of the national social forestry programme currently being implemented in several states have been significant only in the State of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the World Bank study has opined that the major gain out of the project has been building in terms of capability in training, monitoring, evaluation and micro planning of programmes in States, such as Himachal Pradesh;

(c) what steps have been taken by National Wastelands Development Board to replicate the success of the programme observed in other States;

(d) whether it is a fact that one of the weaknesses of the programme referred to in the Study has been non-involvement of voluntary agencies; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken to involve appropriate voluntary agencies in the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA